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School of Music Faculty Newsletter, May 2019

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Illinois State University School of Music

Faculty/Staff Newsletter • May 2019 • Volume 8, No. 8

Faculty Accomplishments and News (in alphabetical order):

Ama Oforiwaa Aduonum presented a paper at the National Council on Black Studies on March 8 in New Orleans, LA. She also organized and presented “Black Music: A Showcase and Community” on Thursday, March 28 in Kemp Recital Hall to a diverse audience of students, faculty, and community members. She performed her solo music-dance-drama, *Walking with My Ancestors*, at the Illinois Theatre Association (ITA) Festival on Friday, March 29. The next day, Oforiwaa presented a workshop, “Building Community Through African Music and Dance,” for the ITA Festival. Her performance of “Walking with My Ancestors” won Outstanding Original Work, Outstanding Use of Music, Outstanding Performance, and Illinois State Champion on March 31. *Walking with My Ancestors* is directed by Kim Pereira and produced by Don Shandrow of the Coalescence Theatre Project. She performed and represented Illinois at the regional American Association of Community Theatre Festival (AACTFest) at Kokomo, IN on April 13. Her performance at Kokomo won the regional Outstanding Performance, Outstanding Direction, and Outstanding Production. She will represent the region (IN, IL, OH, MI, and WI) at the national AACTFest with her performance and composition in Gettysburg, PA this summer. Oforiwaa’s African Music and Dance Ensemble performed its end-of-semester concert in Kemp Recital Hall on April 19 to a large audience.



Oforiwaa Aduonum performing with the African Drumming and Dance Ensemble.

Upcoming SOM meetings:

- 5/2/19
 - SFSC @ 11am
- 5/7/19
 - CFA End-of-Year @ 4pm, UG
- 8/15/19
 - Opening CFA @ 8:30am, UG
 - Opening SOM @ 11am, KRH
- 8/20/19
 - MUS 110 Convo @ 11am
 - Curriculum @ 11am
- 8/27/19
 - Curriculum @ 11am
- 8/29/19
 - Advisory @ 11am
- 9/3/19
 - His/Theory/Comp @ 11am
 - Music Education @ 11am
- 9/5/18
 - Curriculum @ 11am
- 9/10/18
 - SFSC @ 11am

Allison Alcorn hosted Concert Comments for two concerts with the Illinois Symphony, facilitating comments with Carl Schimmel prior to the premiere of his new composition, “Gate of Horn,” and also with violinist Rachel Barton Pine. Allison published an entry for the SoTL Advocate Blog, [“Musicology's Emerging Culture for Pedagogy and SoTL,”](#) describing her entree into SoTL research this year looking at synthesis journals in the music history classroom. Music Therapy graduate student **Bethany Busch** and senior Music Education major **Katy Reed** have been collaborating with Allison in data collection and entry for the research project. In a mere several days, Allison leaves for the United Kingdom with 12 music majors to study music and culture in London and Edinburgh. Among other things, the group will experience choral evensong in the quire at St. Paul's Cathedral, an organ recital on Handel's organ at St. George's Hanover Square, *Andrea Chénier* at the Royal Opera House, the London Philharmonic Orchestra, bagpipe lessons, and a Scottish caelidh.

Glenn Block and the ISU Symphony performed their final concert on April 28 with concerto competition winners **Anna Chen**, piano student of **Geoffrey Duce** performing the Liszt Piano Concerto No. 1, and **Mason Riedel**, bass trombonist student of **Mark Babbitt**, performing the Daniel Schnyder *sub-ZERO* concerto for bass trombone. The rest of the program included Stravinsky's Suite from *The Firebird* (1919 version) with orchestra choreography, movement, and lighting. April also saw two conducting master classes with Ken Lam, Music Director of the Illinois and Charleston, S.C. Symphony Orchestras, and Kirk Muspratt, Music Director of the Northwest Indiana, New Philharmonic, and DuPage Opera Orchestras. Glenn will leave in early May for three months guest-conducting and leading conducting seminars throughout South America and Brazil, and spending all of July in Italy conducting.

David Collier continues to perform through the end of the semester. He performed as timpanist with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra on April 5 and 6, and will again on May 3 and 4; with the Heartland Festival Orchestra on April 13; and with the Peoria Symphony on April 27. Along with faculty colleague **Ben Stiers**, he directed the spring concert of the ISU Percussion Ensemble on April 14, which featured the world premiere of “Bioluminescence” by faculty composer **Roger Zare**.

Geoffrey Duce performed his final concert as the first Season Artist in Residence with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, performing MacDowell's Piano Concerto No. 2

at the Peoria Civic Center. He also was the featured artist in their Lunch and Learn series prior to the concert, and the solo recital he recorded for their SoundBites series was broadcast on WTVP.

Ellen Elrick joined the Heartland Festival Orchestra on piccolo for the unique “Heartland Portraits” concert on April 13 that included a solo tuba work featuring **Andy Rummel**. On April 27, she completed her 43rd season with the Champaign-Urbana Symphony playing Piccolo/Flute 3. “The Planets and Beyond” concert included *The Planets* (Holst) and *Star Wars Suite* (Williams), as well as “Strontium Red” by **Roger Zare**. In chamber music performance, Ellen, along with other musicians, played the Ibert woodwind quintet on March 26 and the Haydn London trio for 2 flutes and cello on April 12 for Champaign-Urbana's Tuesday Morning Musical Club meetings, with a repeat performance of the Ibert for the end-of-the-year Spring Guest Program on April 23.

Tom Faux has a chapter in a new cross-disciplinary collection of essays on music and cultural sustainability: “Cultural Sustainabilities: Music, Media, Language, Advocacy,” which is published by the [University of Illinois Press](#) and will be released this month. In June, Tom will travel to Cuba with four other Illinois musicians for several weeks of intensive study of Cuban music at the Havana Music School.

Angelo Favis reports that the **ISU Guitar Quartet** performed the world premiere of *Entelechy* by ISU alumnus **Dylan Price** at the 2019 Mid-America Guitar Ensemble Festival, held at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis on March 29-31. They also joined the 70-piece festival guitar orchestra for the world premiere of *Passages* by Guido Sanchez-Portuguez.



The ISU Guitar Quartet in Minneapolis.

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Tim Fredstrom conducted the District 211 Honor Choir Festival in Palatine, IL on April 6. Alumnus **Matt Koehlinger** had students participating in this festival. On April 10, he served as one of the choral judges at the IHSA organizational contest in Stanford, IL, and conducted **Cantus Novus** in their spring concert on April 14. Many ISU faculty, staff, and alumni sing in Cantus Novus, as well as Music colleagues **Cindy Ropp** and **Lauren Palmer**.



Tim Fredstrom and Matt Koehlinger

David Gresham reports that world-famous clarinet virtuoso Julian Bliss came to Illinois State as part of the recent Illinois State Concert Band Festival. On Friday, April 26, Mr. Bliss gave a talk about his life as a musician to the ISU clarinet studio and high school students attending the festival. The next day, he taught a master class for the ISU clarinet studio. Three students had the honor of performing for him: sophomores **Thomas Shermulis** and **Samuel Frosch**, and freshman **Daniel King**.



Julian Bliss with David Gresham, Anne Dervin, and ISU students

Mark Grizzard, Belle Voix, and Chamber Singers went on a performance tour to Illinois high schools on April 16 and 17. They visited seven schools in two days, singing for choir students and sharing information about the School of Music. They are grateful to **Lauren Palmer** and to all faculty for supporting this experience.



Mark Grizzard on tour with Belle Voix and Chamber Singers

Phillip Hash conducted the 2019 InterCity Middle Level Music Festival Honor Band at Bloomington Junior High on April 6. This event involved 89 students from Unit 5, District 87, and Metcalf middle schools. In addition, Phil conducted clinics with the middle school and high school bands at Greenview CUSD 200 on April 3, and at the Disney Magnet High School in Chicago on May 1. He also served as an adjudicator for the Illinois Grade School Music Association State Contest at Troy Middle School in Shorewood April 27.



Phil Hash conducting the 2019 InterCity Middle Level Honor Band

Bill Koehler served as strings judge for the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) Solo and Ensemble contest on April 6 held at Cornerstone Christian Academy.

Tony Marinello hosted the inaugural Wind Conducting Workshop with guest clinician Professor Jerry Junkin from The University of Texas at Austin. Nearly 50 band directors from across Illinois attended this one-day event. Tony was an adjudicator on the Featured Stage at the Chicagoland Band Festival at Hersey High School in early April, where he adjudicated band performances and led performance clinics with bands from Hersey High School, O'Fallon High School, and United Township High School. He also worked with all three bands at Lake Zurich High School, and the Wind Ensemble at Libertyville High School. Tony was an invited clinician for the Festivals of Music event at Elgin Community College where he worked with bands from Kentucky, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. Under Tony's direction, the Symphonic Winds performed their final concert on April 24 with guest composer Donald Grantham, and were joined by the University High School Symphonic Band under **Jason Landes**. Tony organized and ran the 2019 Illinois State

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Concert Band Festival with guest clinicians Alfred Watkins (Lassiter High School Retired Director of Bands), **Randy Greenwell** (ISU alumnus and Lawrence Central High School Retired Director of Bands), Alicia Neal (Eastern Illinois University Director of Bands), and Tim Salzman (University of Washington Director of Bands). Over thirty bands performed in the Center for the Performing Arts. The Wind Symphony performed its final concert on April 27 as the culminating event of the 2019 Illinois State Concert Band Festival with guest composer Donald Grantham (University of Texas) and guest conductor Pamornpan Komolpamorn (Mahidol University in Thailand).



Tony, Jerry Junkin, and Wind Conducting Workshop participants

Adriana Ransom reports that the final Redbird Road Concerts of the spring semester took place at the Normal Public Library and the McLean County Nursing Home in April. Congratulations to the ISU students who performed: **Rhoda Roberts** (violin); **Adriana Sosa** (bassoon); **Eman Jamisolamin** (guitar); **Grace Eom, Andy Maya, Luis Solis** (piano), and **Kara Solis** (piano).



Adriana Sosa and Eman Jamisolamin perform a bassoon and guitar duet at the McLean County Nursing Home on April 18.

Carl Schimmel's "Gate of Horn" was premiered by the Illinois Symphony Orchestra in April. The Clarosa Quartet performed his work, "Vasilissa the Invincible," several times in the Philadelphia area, and Carl recorded it with them at the Curtis Institute of Music. He also served as a judge for the American Composers Forum's NextNotes High School Composition Awards. Carl's percussion quartet "Popet" was premiered at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. On sabbatical, he is in residence in Italy at the Bogliasco Foundation for the next month.



Carl Schimmel at the Bogliasco Foundation

David Snyder performed with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra on April 23 in two youth outreach concerts, and then again on April 27 in a regular subscription concert. In addition, David will perform with the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra on May 4 along with **Christine Hansen**. He will also teach a short summer term class for Lincoln College during the month of May. Finally, David will present a research poster on online teaching at the 8th Biennial Colloquium for Instrumental Music Teacher Educators (IMTE) in Ohio on May 16 and 17.

Ben Stiers gave recitals at ISU on April 1 and Olivet Nazarene University on April 6 as part of the Project 122 Marimba Duo (with Matt Jacklin, Olivet Nazarene University). He performed with the Peoria Symphony Orchestra on their April 23 and April 27 concerts as well. Ben was also recently named the Interim Director of the Big Red Marching Machine for the 2019-2020 season, and he is thankful for all of the helpful input from his colleagues during the drum major and section leader selection process.

Roger Zare was active as a composer, with three premieres of note during April. On April 12, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Wind Ensemble, directed by John Climer, premiered his concerto for oboe and wind ensemble, "Ocean of Undiscovered Truth." The soloist, Katherine Young Steele, serves as the principal oboist of the Milwaukee Symphony. Two days later, on April 14, the ISU percussion studio, under David Collier's direction, premiered "Bioluminescence." Featuring **Matthew James** on the vibraphone, the rest of the ensemble circled the balcony of the Center for the Performing Arts to create antiphonal waves of sound. On April 27, the Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra premiered "Strontium Red," a brief but explosive piece inspired by fireworks. This work was selected as one of the winners of the 2018 CUSO/Music Alive Overture Composition Contest. On behalf of the composition faculty, Roger also reports that the

composition studio is proud to be represented by two current undergraduates in the Donald Sinta Quartet 2019 Composition Competition. **Harrison Collins** was chosen as a winner for "Drive" and **Kyle Waselewski** was chosen as a runner-up for "Reverie." Both works were written at the beginning of this semester, and both will be performed by the Donald Sinta Quartet this coming year. Congratulations to Harrison and Kyle!



Roger Zare, Katherine Young Steele, and John Clime at the premier of "Oceans of Undiscovered Truth."

2019 -2020 Audition Dates

Saturday, 9/28/19
 Saturday, 12/7/19
 Saturday, 1/18/20
 Friday, 1/24/20
 Saturday, 1/25/20
 Friday, 2/7/20
 Saturday, 2/8/20
 Saturday, 3/28/20

Upcoming Events

All events scheduled through Peggy DeHaven in CE 225 will be listed on the University Calendar. Please check your events for accuracy and let Peggy know if corrections need to be made. If your event does not yet have a description included, send text to Peggy so that she may add it to your event announcement.



Upcoming Concerts, Important Dates

5/4/19 String Project Concert @ 11am, CPA
 5/5/19 CSA Spring Concert @ 2pm, KRH
 5/11/19 CFA Commencement @ 7pm, Braden
 6/9/19 High School Band Camp (through 6/15)
 6/16/19 Jr. High Band Camp (through 6/22)
 6/26/19 Summer ACDA (through 6/27)
 7/1/19 Concerts on the Quad @ 7pm
 7/8/19 Concerts on the Quad @ 7pm
 7/15/19 Concerts on the Quad @ 7pm
 7/20/19 MIOpera (through 8/4)
 7/22/19 Concerts on the Quad @ 7pm
 7/29/19 String Project Day Camp (through 8/3)
 7/29/19 Concerts on the Quad @ 7pm
 8/12/19 New Faculty Orientation
 8/14/19 CFA New Faculty Orientation
 8/15/19 CFA and SOM Opening Meetings
 8/16/19 New Undergraduate Meeting @ 2pm, CH
 8/18/19 CFA Picnic @ 5pm
 8/19/19 1st Day of Classes
 8/24/19 Choral Retreat
 8/26/19 Jury Recognition Recital @ 7pm, KRH
 9/7/19 Home Football
 9/12/19 Presidential Event, CPA
 9/15/19 Choral Showcase @ 3pm, CPA
 9/21/19 Home Football
 9/22/19 All-State Band Day
 9/22/19 Wind Symphony @ 5pm, CPA
 9/26/19 Jazz Ensembles I & II @ 8pm, CPA
 9/29/19 All-State String Day
 9/29/19 Symphony Orchestra @ 5pm, CPA